

REMARKS

Box 10 of the Office Action Summary indicates that the drawings filed on 10/03/04 are objected to by the Examiner. No reason for such objection, however, is set forth. Clarification of such objection is accordingly respectfully requested.

Restriction has been required between Claims 1-24, drawn to an article, and Claims 25-31, drawn to a process. Applicant affirms elections of Group I, claims 1-24. The election is made without traverse.

Withdrawn non-elected process of making claims 25 and 29 have been amended to include all the limitations of elected product claim 1. Accordingly, rejoinder of such withdrawn claims, and claims 26-28 and 30-31 dependent thereon, upon allowance of elected product claim 1 is respectfully requested.

Claim 3 is objected to for lack of antecedent basis for the term "additional conductive layer" in the parent claim 1. It is noted that such phrase actually occurs in original claim 4, which claim has been amended consistent with claims 3 and 1. Reconsideration of this objection is accordingly respectfully requested.

Claims 5-6 are objected to because the Examiner states that it is unclear how a layer can have an electrically conductive side and an electrically insulating side, wherein the electrically insulating side is formed by a layer of polymeric resin binder, unless the sides are actually layers themselves. Consistent with the Examiner's comments, claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the invention is directed towards a conductive color filter formed from a layer of carbon nanotubes which is covered by a layer of colored polymeric resin binder. As described at page 3, lines 25-27, the resin binder covers the layer of carbon nanotubes to hold the nanotube conductors in place and to protect them. Further support for such amendment is found generally throughout the specification, and specifically, e.g., at page 6, lines 23-25. Additionally, as more fully described at page 7, lines 3-20, it is a feature of the invention that the polymer resin binder

layer may be deposited in a variety of layer thicknesses, such that the resin layer may be either thin enough so that the conductive nanotubes provide conductivity through the thickness of the resin layer, or may be sufficiently thick so that the conductive nanotubes are completely covered and the resulting colored filters are conductive only from one side of the resin layer. Reconsideration of this objection is accordingly respectfully requested

Claims 1-13, 19-20, 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ohtsu et al. (US 6,436,591) in view of Chung et al. (US 6,426,590), as evidenced by Pavlovsky (US 6,777,869). Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ohtsu in view of Chung, as evidenced by Pavlovsky, as applied to claims 1-13, 19-20, 22 above, and further in view of Jones (US 5,672,938). Claims 15-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ohtsu in view of Chung and Jones, as evidenced by Pavlovsky as applied to claim 14 above, and further in view of Boroson et al. (US 6,226,890). Claims 23-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ohtsu in view of Chung and Jones, as evidenced by Pavlovsky, as applied to claim 14 above, and further in view of Yamada et al. (US 5,583,675). Claim 21 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ohtsu in view of Chung, as evidenced Pavlovsky, as applied to claims 1-13, 19-20, 22 above, and further in view of Boroson et al. (US 6,226,890).

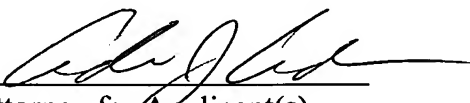
Regarding independent claim 1, the Examiner states that Ohtsu teaches a conductive color filter (column 7, lines 20-30) which can comprise carbon black (column 8, lines 1-5) dispersed into a polymeric resin binder (water-soluble polymer) (column 8, lines 5-15), and that in the case of using carbon black as a colorant for the black matrix, it is not always necessary to add another conductive component (column 8, lines 1-5), implying that it is desirable to add one. While acknowledging Ohtsu fails to teach a layer of carbon nanotubes covered by a polymeric resin binder, the Examiner states that Chung teaches a layer of carbon nanotubes which emit electrons (column 9, lines 45-56) covered by a polymeric resin binder (abstract), and that Pavlovsky teaches that carbon nanotubes are so small that they are effectively transparent to visible light (column 2, lines 25-35), and that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary

skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to have used the carbon nanotubes of Chung as the light-transmitting conductive material of Ohtsu, in place of or along with the carbon black of Ohtsu, in order to obtain a color filter with the desired high conductivity, wherein the carbon nanotubules of Chung do not interfere optically with the colorant in the filter, being light-transmitting, as evidenced by Pavlovsky. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As noted at page 2, lines 14-17 of the present specification, Ohtsu et al. discloses a method of making a conductive color filter using a photoconductor and an electrodeposition technique. In such process, an electrolyte including ionic material, a water soluble polymer, and a colorant and a conductive material (which may be the same material) is electrodeposited to form a conductive color filter. While carbon black is disclosed as a possible colorant as noted by the Examiner, even if one were to substitute or add carbon nanotubes to the electrolyte of Ohtsu et al, the present invention would not be obtained, as there is no teaching or suggestion to separately deposit a layer of any conductive material followed by a layer of colored resin. To the contrary, carbon nanotubes are not ionic materials, and formation of a layer of such conductive material absent the other required electrolyte components is therefore not compatible with the described electrodeposition technique. The present invention enables the advantages of being able to initially coat a conductive layer of non-colored carbon nanotubes employing known techniques, and also enabling subsequent formation of conductive colored filters by selective deposition of a colored resin binder, which avoids the complication of an electrodeposition technique. The further cited references do not overcome the basic deficiency of the teachings of Ohtsu et al with respect to the present claimed invention, and a prima facie case of obviousness has accordingly not been established. Dependent claims 2-24 are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons as independent claim 1. Reconsideration of this rejection is accordingly respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, reconsideration of this patent application is respectfully requested. A prompt and favorable action by the Examiner is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner believe any remaining issues may be resolved via a telephone interview, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' representative at the number below to discuss such issues.

Respectfully submitted,



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If the Examiner is unable to reach the Applicant(s) Attorney at the telephone number provided, the Examiner is requested to communicate with Eastman Kodak Company Patent Operations at (585) 477-4656.